



EMERGENCY ORDER
IN AND FOR THE CITY OF SEQUIM, WASHINGTON
No. 2020-21

Regarding implementation by the City Arts Advisory Commission of a webpage and blog to assist local artists affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and response.

Policy/Budget ☒ (Council) **City Clerk use only:** Presented to Council _____
Administrative (City Manager) ☐

On March 16, 2020, at a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Sequim, the City Council issued a Proclamation of Civil Emergency due to the novel corona virus (COVID-19) outbreak that was identified as a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020.

The Proclamation of Civil Emergency was issued pursuant to Sequim Municipal Code 2.60, RCW 35A.38.010, and RCW 38.52.070(2) based on the public health threat posed by COVID-19, and is consistent with concurrent emergency declarations issued by the President of the United States and the Governor of the State of Washington.

On March 23, 2020 Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-25 – “Stay Home Stay Healthy”, which ordered everyone to shelter in place until April 6, 2020 unless 1) performing essential activities and/or 2) working in essential business services. “Essential activities” are limited to: 1) getting necessary supplies and services for family/household members, 2) engaging in activities essential to public health/safety for family/household members, 3) caring for family members, friends, etc., and 4) engaging in outdoor exercise if appropriate social distancing was followed. People who are in unsafe housing situations, such as domestic violence, or who are experiencing homelessness are exempt from the Proclamation.

On May 4, 2020 the Governor extended his emergency Proclamation (20-05) and his “Stay Home, Stay Healthy” Order (20-25 et seq.) until May 31, 2020 at 11:59 p.m.

Complying with the Governor’s orders and otherwise responding to the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in severe hardships for the local arts community, which relies heavily on public displays and performances that have been curtailed by social distancing guidelines and the abrupt closure of businesses and venues. In addition, due to the massive unemployment caused by the pandemic, persons who once had the means to support local arts are no longer able to do so.

The City of Sequim’s City Arts Advisory Commission (CAAC) was established by ordinance in 2014. The CAAC’s mission is to “encourage, support, and facilitate various forms of artistic and cultural activities within the greater Sequim community.” Ordinance 2014-008 specifically provides for the CAAC to “assist existing organizations in the field of art” and to “recommend ... opportunities/plans to conduct, sponsor, or co-sponsor public programs to further the development and public awareness of, and



interest in, the fine and performing arts.” The CAAC provides recommendations to staff and Council that further its mission, with the public interest purpose of encouraging cultural and artistic endeavors and projects within the local community.

On March 23, 2020, the City of Sequim’s City Arts Advisory Commission (CAAC) determined that it was in the public interest to establish a webpage and blog to provide resources for local artists during COVID-19. The webpage will provide a location to digitally display art, to “meet” local artists through on-line interviews, to request assistance from other artists or supporters, and to list donations and grants that may be available.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED AND ORDERED THAT:

Section 1. The City’s Arts Coordinator, in cooperation with the City Arts Advisory Commission, may establish and maintain a webpage and blog to assist the CAAC and the City in its support of the local arts community during the crisis. The Arts Coordinator and CAAC will develop and implement needed policies for proper implementation of the blog and associated programs.

Section 2. Presentation, Ratification, Termination. Emergency Orders issued under the March 16, 2020 Proclamation of Civil Emergency will be filed with the Legal Department and presented by the City Clerk as soon as practicable to the City Council for ratification and confirmation, modification, or rejection, if applicable.

Rejected orders will be void after the Council vote rejecting them.

Until such time as Council acts, Emergency Orders will be considered in full force and effect.

Section 3. Duration. Unless modified, extended, or terminated by the Sequim City Council or Sequim City Manager as applicable, this Emergency Order is effective immediately and remains in effect until such time as the COVID-19 emergency proclamations and orders are lifted.

SIGNED this ___21st___ day of _____ May _____, 2020, at _____ hours.

CITY OF SEQUIM

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Charles P. Bush".

Charles P. Bush, City Manager

Approved as to form:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kristina Nelson-Gross".

Kristina Nelson-Gross, City Attorney

Attest:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Sara McMillon".

Sara McMillon, City Clerk